

THE ADVOCATE

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Why I Come To Work

by Adina Fuller, Social Worker

I'm **Adina Fuller** and as a Social Worker at DYRS, I am responsible for managing the care and supervision for a case load of 27 youth on my case load. I spend countless hours beyond my tour of duty counseling youth and families on developing viable transition plans out of the juvenile justice system. It is my job to identify the resources, services, and supports that would enable them to achieve the goals that would help them become self sufficient and to accept personal responsibility for their lives. Those experiences must be meaningful in order to increase the likelihood that the youth and family will be vested in improving the quality of their lives. These are the reasons why I come to work, why I voiced in my testimony the importance of social work in the juvenile justice system with Congressional Members on Capitol Hill, and why I go into the schools, neighborhoods, and homes of all the youth I serve.



July 30—Adina Fuller testifying on Capitol Hill

Summer Youth Employment @ NBC 4

by Sharnice Rand, Summer Youth Employment Intern

Summer Youth Employees from the District had a wonderful experience this summer going behind the scenes of *NBC4 Reporter's Notebook* and *Sunday Reporter's Round Table*. The opportunity to watch Council Chairman Vincent Gray being interviewed and share his thoughts on the overturn of the gun ban law was interesting. It truly was a learning experience to see the people behind the scenes of television news and how the news anchors have the opportunity to re-record if they messed up. Also, getting a tour around the building of NBC was very enjoyable because our tour guide explained the history very well. Overall, it was a wonderful trip for us and one we would like to do again.



DYRS hosted SYEP Youth from the DC Community

NFPA—Fire Protection Training

by Julian Muhammad, Risk Manager

On July 21-25, DYRS hosted training by the National Fire Protection Association on three major areas of fire protection: Fire Sprinkler Systems, Fire Alarm Systems and the National Life Safety Code 2006. There were 29 participants: 15 DEFEMS Fire Inspectors, 7 DCRA Inspectors and 8 DYRS staff. The training is critical for helping DYRS comply with NFOA standards that will be used to assess and inspect DYRS facilities, and most importantly, to help keep our youth and staff safe. On August 18, 2008, joint Inspections of DYRS facilities will begin, so this training was crucial for making this happen. The training was coordinated and procured by the DYRS Office of Risk Management, and the instructors were provided by the NFPA.



DEFEMS, DCRA & DYRS at the Youth Services Center



Government of the District of Columbia
Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services